



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
JERUSALEM

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

WEEKLY MAILING

August 10, 2012

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Official Websites:

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://arabic.jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://gaza.usvpp.gov>

<http://arabic.gaza.usvpp.gov>

Social Media:

www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem

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Thank You!

Jerusalem Youth Learn About Ramadan in America at America House



On July 26, U.S consulate General staff led a discussion on “Ramadan in America,” using a PowerPoint presentation to spur English conversation about the depictions of Muslim life in America. The 20 or so youth in attendance engaged in creative story telling about the people and places in the slides.

On August 2, 25 local youth were engaged in a dynamic discussion of perceived differences and surprising commonalities between American and Palestinian teens.

Ramadan Community Service Program Kicks Off in Jenin



Through a grant to *Partners for Sustainable Development (PSD)*, PD Jerusalem staff joined volunteers from the northern West Bank city of Jenin in a Ramadan community service program entitled “A Step.” In the week leading up to the July 30 *iftar* celebration, thirty local youth were trained to conduct effective planning and execution of community initiatives. An *iftar* meal and celebration was organized, featuring a talent show, an American-themed cultural quiz contest, a performance of traditional Palestinian music, and presentations on the two local initiatives that won the Jenin district competition: “the campaign to prevent the use of chemical pesticide” and “the green roof campaign.” The event was the first of four such programs that will take place throughout the West Bank – in Tubas, in Hebron and in Nablus.

U.S. Consulate representatives at the event Dean Lieberman gave an interview with local radio station, Al-Ahlam, in which he amplified U.S. commitment to Palestinian civil society, to cultural engagement among youth, and to strengthening the institutions of a future Palestinian state.

State Dept. on Israel-Palestinian Authority Agreement on Taxes



STATEMENT BY ACTING DEPUTY SPOKESPERSON PATRICK VENTRELL

Government of Israel-Palestinian Authority Agreement on Tax Revenues

The United States welcomes the understanding on tax revenue collection between the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel. This is significant for both parties: it should facilitate the flow of goods between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, reduce smuggling, and increase tax revenues to be shared by both parties. It should also demonstrate the very practical value of the results of talks between the two parties. Even as we encourage the parties to return to negotiations aimed at agreement on a two-state solution, none of us should lose sight of the value of pursuing practical measures that improve the daily lives of Palestinians as well as Israelis. Solving the financial and economic difficulties facing the Palestinian Authority and ensuring the viability of the Palestinian economy are necessary for a future Palestinian state, and are in the interests of the parties, the United States, and the entire international community. It is also valuable to facilitate Israeli authorities' efforts to implement improved customs and other tax procedures.

بيان وزارة الخارجية حول الاتفاق الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني بشأن الضرائب

بيان من باتريك فانتريل، المتحدث الرسمي بالوكالة

ترحب الولايات المتحدة بالتفاهم المتعلق بجمع الإيرادات الضريبية بين السلطة الفلسطينية وحكومة إسرائيل. وهذا أمر يشكل أهمية لكلا الطرفين: فمن المتوقع أنه سوف يسهل تدفق السلع بين إسرائيل والسلطة الفلسطينية، ويحد من عمليات التهريب، ويساهم في زيادة الإيرادات الضريبية التي يتقاسمها كلا الطرفين. وسوف يؤكد هذا الاتفاق على مدى الأهمية العملية الكبيرة لنتائج أية محادثات بين الطرفين. وحتى في الوقت الذي نشجع فيه الطرفين على العودة إلى طاولة المفاوضات بهدف التوصل لاتفاق حول حل الدولتين، ينبغي أن لا يغفل أي منا مدى القيمة التي توفرها متابعة الإجراءات العملية المنطوية على تحسين الحياة اليومية للفلسطينيين، كما للإسرائيليين على حد سواء.

إن التغلب على الصعوبات المالية والاقتصادية التي تواجه السلطة الفلسطينية، وضمان قابلية الحياة للاقتصاد الفلسطيني شأنان ضروريان لقيام دولة فلسطينية في المستقبل، وهما يصبان في مصلحة كلا الطرفين، وفي مصلحة الولايات المتحدة، والمجتمع الدولي بأسره. إن لذلك أهمية كبيرة لناحية تسهيل جهود السلطات الإسرائيلية في تنفيذ وتحسين الإجراءات الجمركية والإجراءات الضريبية الأخرى.

International Youth Day is on August 12



Every year on August 12, people around the world observe International Youth Day. Proposed at the United Nations in 1999, International Youth Day has been an annual event since 2000.

In 2012, the day carries the theme "Building a Better World: Partnering with Youth," a global call to work with youth to build a better world. People ages 15 through 24 make up one-sixth of the world's population.

"Compared to their parents' generation, young people have more opportunities and more say in decision making," said Wendy Cunningham, the World Bank's coordinator for children and youth.

But Cunningham said that there are more steps to take to help young people thrive. Countries that invest in better education, health care and job training for young adults create economic growth and reduce poverty, according to the bank's *World Development Report 2012*.

Streamed LIVE: E-Teacher Scholarship Program Professional Development Workshop

As part of Training program for English teaching professionals sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Every year the most successful E-Teacher (English Language Teacher) students are invited for a special program in the U.S. It finishes. It finishes with the E-Teacher Scholars Conference.

Presentations will stream live today on August 9 (between 3:00 pm and 11 pm) and tomorrow August 10 (between 4:00 pm and 10:00 pm). Here's the link and schedule. You can also Submit questions via Twitter: #eteacher2012

<http://exchanges.state.gov/englishlearning/eteacher/professional-development-conference.html>

Years of Preparation Give Curiosity Flawless Start



The rover Curiosity — equipped with an array of scientific instruments to examine the planet — landed on Mars August 6 (August 5 in the Pacific time zone at The Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) master control). In these first days on the surface, the team is checking out the various instruments and cameras on the craft to ensure they survived the almost 570-million-kilometer journey. JPL, the NASA agency managing the mission to the Red Planet also identifying the precise position of the rover in the targeted range where it landed inside a large feature called Gale Crater. Previous observations of the planet made by orbiting satellites led scientists to believe that surface features at this place were formed when liquid water flowed on what appears now to be a dry, hot, desert planet. Investigating those sites to determine if they ever provided a habitat for life-forms is the primary mission of MSL. Representatives of the JPL team briefed the press on the progress of the mission August 8, reporting that the nuclear generator powering the craft is delivering more energy than anticipated, which will allow more schedule flexibility in operating the craft and powering it down to regenerate its power.

The communication systems are also delivering more than expected. “We feel very confident now that we have lots of data capacity,” said Jennifer Trosker, a mission manager. She said a telecommunications team put in seven years of “fantastic work” to design a system with the capacity to send a great deal of information back to Earth for analysis.

Also see: [President Obama on Curiosity Landing on Mars](#)

مسبار كيوريوسيتي يبدأ بداية لا تشوبها شائبة بعد سنوات من التجهيز والإعداد

المسبار الفضائي الطواف كيوريوسيتي يتأهب لاكتشافات علمية على سطح المريخ — تعمل جميع المعدات والنظم المعقدة على متن مختبر علوم المريخ (MSL) بسلاسة ودون أخطاء على الإطلاق وفقاً للفريق العلمي في مختبر الدفع النفاث التابع لوكالة ناسا والذي يقوم بإدارة البعثة إلى الكوكب الأحمر. وكان مسبار كيوريوسيتي — المجهز بمجموعة من الأدوات العلمية لدراسة كوكب المريخ — قد هبط على سطح الكوكب في 6 آب/أغسطس (الموافق 5 آب/أغسطس بتوقيت منطقة المحيط الهادئ في مركز التحكم الرئيسي بمختبر الدفع النفاث). وفي الأيام الأولى للمسبار الطواف على سطح الكوكب، يقوم فريق العمل بفحص مختلف المعدات والكاميرات على متن المركبة الفضائية للتأكد من أنها ما زالت تعمل بنفس الكفاءة بعد رحلة قطعت خلالها 570 مليون كيلومتر تقريباً. كما يقوم فريق مختبر الدفع النفاث أيضاً بتحديد الموضع الدقيق للمسبار الفضائي في النطاق المستهدف حيث هبط المسبار داخل معلم طبيعي كبير يُسمى غيل كريتر (منخفض غيل). وقد أدت عمليات الرصد السابقة للكوكب والتي قامت بها أقمار صناعية مدارية إلى اعتقاد العلماء بأن معالم سطح الكوكب قد تشكلت في هذا المكان عندما تدفقت مياه سائلة إلى ما يبدو الآن أنه كوكب صحراوي حار وجاف. ويعتبر فحص تلك المواقع لتحديد ما إذا كانت قد وفرت موطناً لأي شكل من أشكال الحياة في الماضي هو المهمة الأساسية لمختبر علوم المريخ. وقد أطلع ممثلو فريق مختبر الدفع النفاث الصحفيين في 8 آب/أغسطس على التقدم الحاصل في مهمة البعثة، وأفادوا بأن المولد النووي الذي يزود المركبة بالطاقة ينتج كميات من الطاقة أكثر مما كان متوقعاً، الأمر الذي سيتيح مزيداً من المرونة في الجدول الزمني لتشغيل المركبة الفضائية وإمدادها بالطاقة المستمرة دون انقطاع. وبالمثل، فإن نظم الاتصالات أيضاً تعمل بكفاءة أكثر مما كان متوقعاً. وقالت جنيفر تروسكر المديرة بالبعثة: “إننا واثقون جداً الآن بأن لدينا الكثير من قدرات البيانات”. وأضافت أن فريق الاتصالات اللاسلكية قام على مدى سبع سنوات بإنجاز “عمل رائع” لتصميم نظام له القدرة على إرسال قدر كبير من المعلومات إلى الأرض لتحليلها.

[بيان الرئيس أوباما حول هبوط المسبار الفضائي كيوريوسيتي على سطح كوكب المريخ](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces The 2013-2014 Humphrey Program

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program is a Fulbright program that brings accomplished young and mid-career professionals with demonstrated leadership potential to the United States for a year of non-degree graduate-level study, leadership development, and professional enrichment. Fellows come from countries in various stages of development or transition. By providing future leaders and policy makers with experience in U.S. society, culture, and professional fields, the program provides a basis for lasting, productive ties between Americans and their professional counterparts overseas. The 2013-2014 Recruitment Guidelines, which may be downloaded from <http://posts.humphreyfellowship.org>

Jerusalem and West Bank Applicants: Email CV to Exchanges@state.gov and copy SirianiMY@state.gov; call 02-622-7107 for more information

Gaza Applicants: Email CV to Essam Mattar (emattar@palnet.com); call 08-286-4623 or 059-967-7317 for more information.

Application Deadline and inquiries:

Please submit application to <http://posts.humphreyfellowship.org/> and send us a copy of your CV by **September 21, 2012.**

Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows

Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows maintain full-time residence at the [International Forum for Democratic Studies](#), NED's research arm located in Washington, D.C. Dedicated to international exchange, the program offers a collegial environment for fellows to reflect on their experiences and consider lessons learned; conduct research and writing; develop contacts and exchange ideas with counterparts in Washington, D.C.; and build ties that contribute to the development of a global network of democracy advocates.

The Reagan-Fascell program will host two five-month fellowship sessions in 2013–2014: Fall 2013 Session: October 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014
Spring 2014 Session: March 1 to July 31, 2014

For information about the application process, please **read through each of the sections** listed in the **Table of Contents on the right**, paying **particular attention** to the sections under [About Us](#) and [Submitting Your Application](#).

Once you have familiarized yourself with this information, you may proceed to our [Online Application System](#), where you will be asked to register and set up a profile in order to begin your fellowship application.

International and Regional News

[U.S. Backing Yemen's Political Transition, Development](#)

[المغرب يوظف موارده في مشروع عمراني بمدينة فاس تموله مؤسسة تحدي الألفية](#)

[Clinton: "New Chapter" for Libyans with Seating of Parliament](#)

[كلينتون تنادي بخطة انتقال لسوريا ما بعد الأسد](#)

[U.S. Envoy Rice at United Nations on Sudan, South Sudan](#)

[مستشار البيت الأبيض برينان يشرح النهج الأمريكي الشامل تجاه اليمن](#)

[Clinton on Seating of Libyan General National Congress](#)

[بيان وزارة الخارجية حول المساعدات الأميركية المقدمة إلى اليمن](#)

[White House Adviser on Comprehensive U.S. Approach to Yemen](#)